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About Our Investment Team

Jim Russell, CFA, CIMA

Managing Director, Chief Investment Officer, Head of Investment Management

Prior to joining Merrill Lynch, Russell spent seven years at Prudential Investments as a senior vice president and the director of the firm's Strategic Investment Research Group. In this position he built and led the firm's investment research efforts and sub-advised portfolio management practice, managing over \$20 billion in client assets. Before Prudential Investments, Russell managed the asset management and asset allocation businesses at Diversified Investment Advisors, a \$60 billion institutional asset management firm located in Purchase, N.Y. Russell has a B.A. from Colgate University, has completed the executive course in behavioral finance at Harvard Kennedy School and is a member of the New York Society of Securities Analysts and the Association of Investment Management Research.

Tom Latta, CFA

Managing Director, Head of Due Diligence

Latta has 25 years of investment experience, including 10 with Merrill Lynch where his responsibilities include structuring and trading fixed-income portfolios in ML Capital Markets. He was also a Global Fixed Income portfolio manager with the Franklin Templeton Group. He earned a B.A. from the University of Miami.

Mike Walsh, CIMA

Director, Senior Portfolio Manager

Before joining Merrill Lynch, Walsh was responsible for mutual fund analysis and selection for 401(k) plans at State Street Global Advisors. He also worked at Fidelity Investments where he was responsible for performing mutual fund analysis. Walsh has over 17 years of experience in the selection and analysis of mutual funds and separate account managers for various multi-managed products. Walsh completed a career in aviation as a naval officer before embarking on his career in investments. Walsh has an MBA from the University of Massachusetts, a B.A. from Providence College, an Investment Strategist Certificate and is a member of the Association for Investment Management and Research and the New York Society of Security Analysts.

John R. Manetta

Senior Portfolio Manager, Merrill Lynch Investment Management & Guidance

In addition to his portfolio management activities, Manetta serves as a member of the Investment Committee, which sets policy for IMG, and the Multi-Manager Investment Committee, which oversees portfolio positioning for the group. Manetta has over 30 years of investment management experience. Formerly, he was chief investment officer of Roszel Advisors, a Merrill Lynch investment advisory subsidiary, and director of research for the Managed Solutions Group, where he joined the firm in 1995.

David R. Marshall, CFA, CAIA, FRM

Director, Senior Quantitative Specialist

Prior to joining Bank of America, Marshall worked as a bond trader at J.P. Morgan Securities where he was responsible for managing a book of Treasury and agency securities for the primary and secondary markets. Marshall also worked as an investment analyst for Commonwealth Financial and New England Pension Consultants where he was responsible for strategic and tactical asset allocation, quantitative research, portfolio construction and investment manager due diligence. He earned a B.A. from Morehouse College with a concentration in finance. He is a member of the Global Association of Risk Professionals and the Boston Security Analysts Society.

Yago Gonzalez, CFA

Director, Fixed-Income Portfolio Manager/Analyst

Gonzalez has 10 years of investment experience and has been with Merrill Lynch since April 2006. Prior to joining Merrill Lynch, he worked for three years as a fixed-income strategist for Vining Sparks IBG L.P. and for four years as an analytics specialist with Bloomberg Financial L.P. Gonzalez has an MBA from the Ohio State University, a B.A. (cum laude) from Universidad Francisco Marroqun, Guatemala, and is a member of the New York Society of Security Analysts and the CFA Institute.



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Rajesh Kohli CFA

Director, Large Cap Growth Portfolio Manager/Analyst

Kohli has been a member of the U.S. Due Diligence team since January 2007 and has over 14 years of investment experience. Before joining Merrill Lynch, he was a portfolio manager/analyst at Financial Partners Capital Management (FPCM). Prior to FPCM, he was at Hamerslag Kempner & Company as an analyst for a small-cap hedge fund. Kohli earned an MBA in finance and investments from Baruch College, a master of commerce from the University of Delhi, India, and is a member of the CFA Institute and the New York Society of Security Analysts.

Melissa C. Perel, CFA, CAIA

Director, Specialist

Perel serves as team leader and senior asset class specialist responsible for international and emerging markets research. This includes performing due diligence on investment managers, recommending manager additions and removals and generating commentary and insight on the international and emerging markets. She also oversees the team's associate research analysts. She has more than 17 years of experience in the investment industry. Prior to joining Bank of America, Perel worked as director of manager research at New England Pension Consultants. She also held positions at SunGard Investment Management Solutions, Mellon Trust, Harvard Management Company and Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. She graduated from the University of Massachusetts Amherst with a degree in finance and received her MBA from Boston University, concentrating in investments and entrepreneurship. Perel is a charter holder of the CFA and CAIA designations and is a member of the Boston Security Analysts Society.

Yogeesh Wagle

Director, Large Cap Value Portfolio Manager/Analyst

Wagle is a member of the U.S. Equity Team, focusing on large cap value managers. He has worked in the investment industry for 10 years and joined Merrill Lynch in June 2006. Prior to Merrill Lynch, Wagle worked as a senior industry analyst at Standard & Poor's Equity Research Services, where he covered utility and energy stocks. He has an MBA and an M.S. in petroleum engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

Howard Choe

Director, U.S. Small/Mid Cap Portfolio Manager/Analyst

Choe is a member of the U.S. Equity Team, focusing on small and mid cap managers. He has been working in the investment industry for more than 20 years and joined Merrill Lynch in September 2006. Prior to Merrill Lynch, Choe worked as an equity analyst at Standard & Poor's and as a trust account manager at Mizuho Bank. He has an MBA from Fordham University and a B.S. from Boston University.